1650
COMIC SHOP NEWS
Hello my name is
Hello my name is
Hello my name is
Hello my name is
Hello my name is
Hello my name is
BALTHAZAR
TYLER
MACK
FIGHT CLUB

Palahniuk Invited Readers to Rejoin the Fight

Fight Club 2 may have led readers to conclude that the ***Fight Club*** saga had come to an end.

Think again!

Chuck Palahniuk & Cameron Stewart have re-formed the club in ***Fight Club 3,*** a 12-part series from Dark Horse. Marla, her son, and her husband—who now goes by the name Balthazar—are back... and of course, so is Tyler Durden. "***Fight Club 3*** is about what happens when you need to team up with your enemy," Palahniuk said. "And the situation is even more complicated here, given Tyler Durden and Balthazar's *unique* relationship.

"The narrator, now called Balthazar (after an old coworker of mine from Peru, a very funny guy) is the noble, politically correct, humanist. And Tyler will always be the me-first, ambitious prick. Basically, they present the good boy versus the bad boy. What one man won't do, the other must emerge to accomplish. Balta can't commit violence, while Tyler can't express emotion."

In ***Fight Club 3,*** "Balta is in a different kind of trouble. While Marla is pregnant with Tyler's kid, his Tyler side is cheating with a gorgeous stranger who gives him the mother-of-all venereal diseases. While that sounds soap opera–y when spelled out so simply, it's just the tip of the STD iceberg that's about to destroy humanity. That's me: Going where no comic has gone before."

Can Tyler adjust to the idea of fatherhood? "Tyler sees *everyone* in terms of their use to him," Palahniuk said. "To Tyler, a child would be just an extension of himself—a franchise as it were, or a colony whose only purpose is to enrich its maker.."

How will Marla deal with all of this? "In ***Fight Club 3,*** Marla gets her backstory fleshed out, just as the narrator's childhood was depicted in ***Fight Club 2,***" Palahniuk said. "But she once more creates her own team and sets off to resolve the crisis."

How does all this fit in with the rather offbeat metafictional ending of ***Fight Club 2,*** which found Palahniuk himself taking a rather bizarre role in the story? (For that matter, how is Palahniuk still around to tell the story after that ending?!) "My position is that a narrative should have at least two layers of reality," Palahniuk explained. "In our binary world the real and the unreal define each other. The meta layer in ***Fight Club 2*** helped ground the overall story in the real world, while it helped resolve me as a creator.

"In ***Fight Club 3,*** the 'real world' plot is made more real by intercutting with a dreamlike fantasy world. Of course, eventually the two must combine, just as they did in ***Fight Club 2,*** and just as the narrator must always reintegrate with Tyler. This intercutting also mimics how we spend our days dropping in and out of the dream worlds presented to us by television, films, and comics."

Can readers look forward to seeing another *Chuck Palahniuk* appearance in ***Fight Club 3?*** "Not in the book—I won't appear as a character. But I've set my cap to visit more comic stores and cons and meet more people in 2019," Palahniuk said. "Oh, how I wish I could manifest Tyler Durden to hit the bricks and press the flesh. Readers want to meet Tyler, and the disappointment is palpable when they meet me, just some old man. The only benefit to being a bland old person is that people will trust me with their dark secrets, and I'll be turning those hidden parts of everyone's lives into ***Fight Club 4.***"

Palahniuk seemed to take the story of ***Fight Club*** to its most extreme in ***Fight Club 2;*** can he outdo that in ***Fight Club 3?*** "Just watch me," Palahniuk replied.

Fight Club 3 reunites Palahniuk with artist *Cameron Stewart,* who also illustrated ***Fight Club 2.*** When did the two of them decide that it was time to revisit Tyler Durden's world again, and how long have they been working on ***Fight Club 3?*** "We hadn't launched all the single issues of ***Fight Club 2*** before I was writing the script for ***Fight Club 3,***" Palahniuk said. "That way I could set it aside for a year or more and revisit it with detachment and a fresh eye. It bores me, the idea of a new faux crisis every go-round. So I wanted to explore some fresh cray-cray and really end the world. All these superheroes saving the world... preserving the status quo... is that really a happy ending? Couldn't we do better by destroying the world, at least a little?"

Palahniuk has some familiar talents supplying variant covers (such as *David Mack, Duncan Fegredo, Steve Morris,* and *Francesco Francavilla)* as well as some artists making their ***Fight Club*** variant cover debut (including *Colleen Coover, Kirbi Fagan,* and *Eric Wilkerson).* What does Palahniuk look for when selecting artists to provide variant covers? "You can credit *Scott Allie* for the team building," Palahniuk said. "He works like a movie producer, making all the pieces fit, then like an editor, making them work to their best effect. In the interval between ***Fight Club 2*** and ***Fight Club 3*** we kept in touch with artists by enlisting them in the two coloring books, ***Bait: Off-Color Stories for You to Color*** and ***Legacy: An Off-Color Novella for You to Color.***"

Palahniuk and Stewart achieved the seemingly impossible with ***Fight Club 2:*** They put out a 10-part limited series in 10 months. Will they be able to duplicate the achievement with ***Fight Club 3?*** "Cross your fingers. Cameron began drawing the issues in March of 2018, and I'm still tweaking the script, but we should be able to deliver on time," Palahniuk replied. "That said, I've just invited some vast, time-sucking disaster to descend upon us."

Fight Club 3 #1, a $3.99 comic by *Chuck Palahniuk & Cameron Stewart* with covers by *David Mack, Kirbi Fagan,* and *Duncan Fegredo,* is in comic shops now. ***Fight Club 3*** #2 follows on February 27th, with the third issue slated for release on March 27th.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

FCBD May Be Fourth-coming!

It may still be January, but comic shops are already planning ahead for Free Comic Book Day 2019 on May 4th—and they have some great books to share with readers on that day!

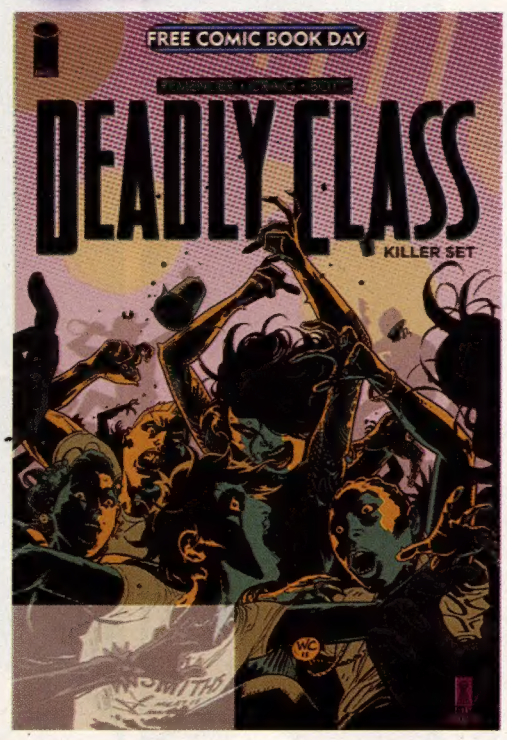
Every year, the Free Comic Book Day Committee selects a dozen Gold Sponsor books for FCBD; these are books that every participating store will carry in some quantity. In addition, the committee has also selected 39 Silver Sponsor books; these are books that stores can order if they wish, but carrying these titles is optional. (And remember—while readers are allowed to select a certain quantity of FCBD books at no charge when they visit their friendly neighborhood comic shop, the shops are paying money for each and every copy of those books, so please be sure to thank them for making this day possible!)

This year's Gold Sponsor titles include:

•***Avengers FCBD 2019*** (Marvel) – Features two 10-page stories that set the stage for upcoming game-changers in the Marvel Universe. Plus, a can't-miss special guest!

•***Bloodshot Special FCBD 2019*** (Valiant) – Presenting a breathtaking new tale of Valiant's brutal one-man army. Then, the 41st century dawns anew with a pulse-pounding prologue to ***Fallen World***, a shocking new event series starring Rai, the formidable protector of a future Earth.

•***Deadly Class: Killer Set FCBD 2019*** (Image) – Welcome to King's Dominion



School for the Deadly Arts, where the world's top crime families send the next generation of assassins to be trained.

•***DC Entertainment Top Secret Gold Title FCBD 2019*** (DC) – We can't tell you what it is because... well, the title says it all, doesn't it?

•***Disney Descendants: Dizzy's New Fortune Chapter One Preview FCBD 2019*** (TokyoPop) – The first chapter of a full-color, manga-style graphic novel telling a brand-new story in the world of Disney Descendants.

•***Doctor Who: The Thirteenth Doctor FCBD 2019*** (Titan) – Jump aboard the TARDIS with *Jodie Whittaker's* Doctor and her companions.

•***Interceptor #1 FCBD 2019*** (Vault) – Poli has a mech suit and a mission. Weep has machine guns and a temper. Together they lead a band of freedom fighters on an Earth populated exclusively by blood-sucking vampires.

•***Pokémon: I Choose You and Pokémon Adventures FCBD 2019*** (Viz) – Presenting two tales from the world of Pokémon!

•***Riverdale Season 3 Special FCBD 2019*** (Archie) – See where it all begins in this brand-new story based on the smash-hit CW series, ***Riverdale***!

•***Stranger Things and Black Hammer FCBD 2019*** (Dark Horse) – In ***Stranger Things***, Steve and Nancy try to cheer Mike up, encouraging him to get the adventuring party back together again. Then, in the ***Black Hammer*** series, Madame Dragonfly takes the reader on an EC-style tour through her mysterious Cabin of Horrors.

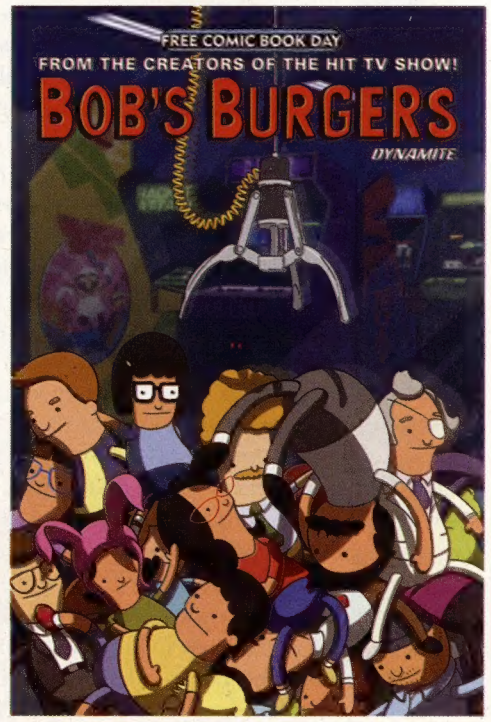
•***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Casualty of War FCBD 2019*** (IDW) – Splinter battles Karai for control of the Foot Clan, with the Turtles caught in the middle!

•***Welcome to the Whedonverse FCBD 2019*** (Boom!) – The perfect jumping-on point for the Whedonverse, with all new stories from the worlds of Boom! Studios' hit series ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer*** and ***Firefly***!

The additional 39 Silver Sponsor stories (which stores may or may not choose to carry, based on their own local reader interests) include:

•***Animosity Tales FCBD 2019*** (Aftershock)

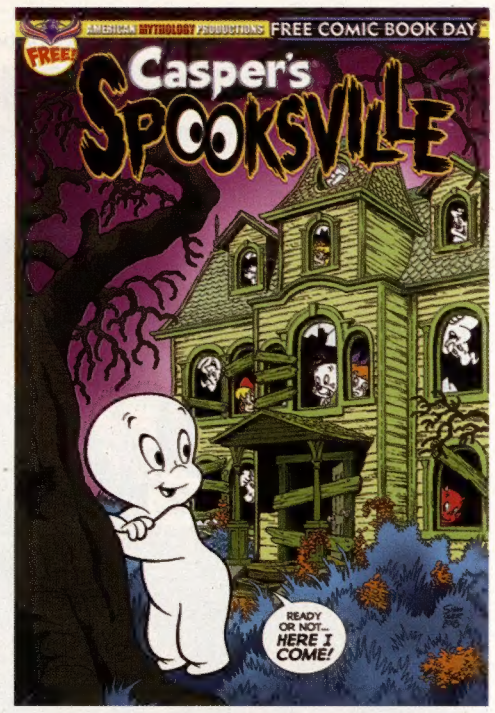
•***Blastosaurus Annual FCBD 2019*** (Golden Apple)



•***Bob's Burgers FCBD 2019*** (Dynamite)

•***Captain Canuck: Equilibrium Shift FCBD 2019*** (Chapterhouse)

•***Casper's Spooksville FCBD 2019*** (American Mythology)



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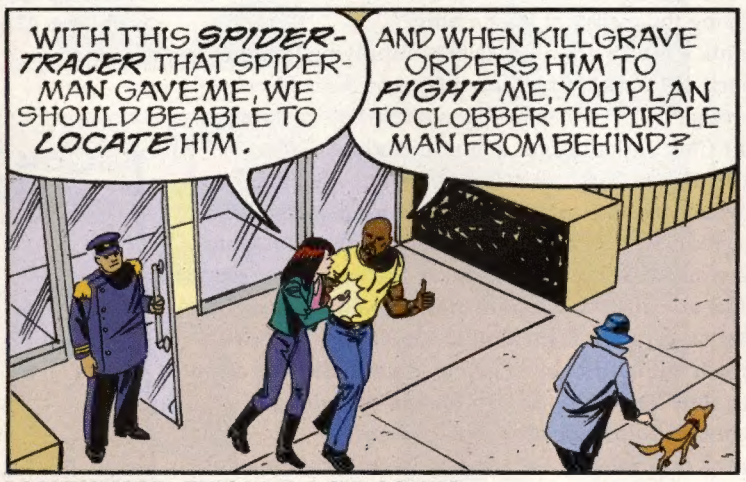
WITH THIS SPIDER-TRACER THAT SPIDER-MAN GAVE ME, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE HIM.
AND WHEN KILLGRAVE ORDERS HIM TO FIGHT ME, YOU PLAN TO CLOBBER THE PURPLE MAN FROM BEHIND?

CONTINUED FROM BACK COVER

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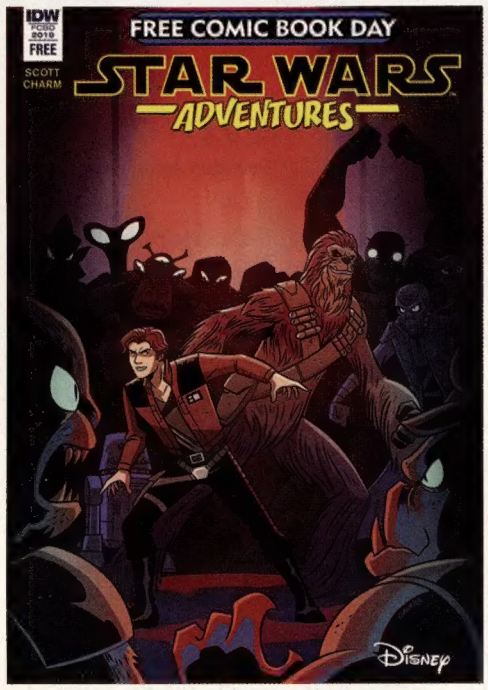
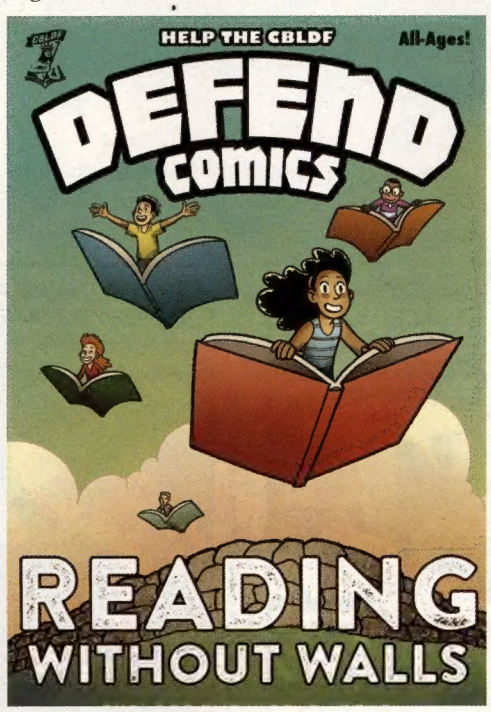
- ***Cristiano Ronaldo's Striker Force 7 FCBD 2019*** (Graphic India)
- ***The Dark Age/Afterburn FCBD 2019*** (Red 5)
- ***DC Entertainment Top Secret Silver Title FCBD 2019*** (DC)
- ***Dragonfly and Dragonflyman*** (Ahoy)
- ***Ghost Hog FCBD 2019*** (Oni)
- ***Gillbert FCBD 2019*** (Papercutz)
- ***Go Fish! FCBD 2019*** (Arcana)
- ***Grumble vs the Goon FCBD 2019*** (Albatross)
- ***H1 Ignition FCBD 2019*** (Humanoids)
- ***Hope FCBD 2019*** (Source Point Press)
- ***The Incredibles 2 and Minecraft FCBD 2019*** (Dark Horse)
- ***Kino's Journey: The Beautiful World Sampler FCBD 2019*** (Vertical)
- ***Kodansha Comics All-Ages Manga Sampler FCBD 2019*** (Kodansha)
- ***Lady Mechanika FCBD 2019*** (Benitez)
- ***Little Lulu in the World's Best Comic Book FCBD 2019*** (Drawn & Quarterly)
- ***Lucy and Andy Neanderthal: Big and Boulder FCBD 2019*** (Random House)
- ***Lumberjanes: The Shape of Friendship FCBD 2019*** (Boom!)
- ***Malika: Fire and Frost FCBD 2019*** (Youneek)
- ***My Hero Academia/The Promised Neverland FCBD 2019*** (Viz Media)
- ***Our Favorite Thing Is My Favorite Thing Is Monsters FCBD 2019*** (Fantagraphics)
- ***Punchline FCBD 2019*** (Antarctic)
- ***Robotech FCBD 2019*** (Titan Comics)
- ***Scout Comics Presents: Midnight Sky FCBD 2019*** (Scout)
- ***A Sheets Story FCBD 2019*** (Lion Forge)
- ***Spawn FCBD 2019*** (Image Comics)
- ***Spider-Man FCBD 2019*** (Marvel)



- ***Star Wars Adventures: Droid Hunters FCBD 2019*** (IDW—and is there any book *more* appropriate for a May 4th Free Comic Book Day?)
- ***Starburns Presents FCBD 2019*** (Starburns Industries)
- ***Street Fighter: Sakura vs Karin FCBD 2019*** (Udon)
- ***The Tick FCBD 2019*** (NEC)
- ***Treasury of British Comics Presents: Funny Pages FCBD 2019*** (Rebellion/2000 AD)
- ***Vampirella No. 0 50th Anniversary FCBD 2019*** (Dynamite)
- ***Wolfie Monster and the Big Bad Pizza Battle FCBD 2019*** (Graphix)
- ***Zagor: The Alien Saga FCBD 2019*** (Epicenter)

In addition, there are two informational/educational Silver Sponsor offerings:

- ***Defend Comics FCBD 2019*** (Comic Book Legal Defense Fund)



- ***The Overstreet Guide to Collecting FCBD 2019*** (Gemstone)

"The quality of titles from publisher applicants made for some tough choices," Free Comic Book Day spokesperson *Ashton Greenwood* said. "It's a solid indicator that Free Comic Book Day is truly the greatest event to showcase the best and brightest titles you can find in comic book shops. We can't wait to once again share the FCBD experience with fans and everyone who loves comic books."

Spidey's Still Swinging Along Thanks to Roy Thomas & Alex Saviuk

With the retirement of *Larry Lieber* and the death of *Stan Lee,* several readers have asked ***CSN*** if the Spider-Man comic strip was coming to an end as well. Thankfully, the answer is no!

The strip is continuing under the direction of *Roy Thomas & Alex Saviuk,* who have been a part of the creative team for several years now. "I started penciling the Sundays in May 1997," *Alex Saviuk* told ***CSN.*** "In February 2003, dailies inker *John Tartaglione* needed a week off for health reasons, so I was asked to ink that week over *Larry Lieber's* pencils. I had fun, and Stan liked it! Then in November 2003, unfortunately John passed away, and I was offered the inking job. I've also filled in for Larry a few times over the years and really enjoyed those assignments.

"I was offered penciling the dailies when I was told that Larry wanted to leave to pursue some writing projects he had started over the years—as in novels—and just never had the time to finish because he spent a lot of time with the dailies. Larry is 87, and I believe he wanted to let go of the strip for a while but just didn't exactly know when the timing would be right for him. I got the call on a Friday in mid-July to start the following Monday, but I asked him to give me two more weeks to get started because I was knee-deep in another project. So then I started at the end of July with the strips that began on September 10th."

Roy Thomas's connection with the syndicated strip goes back even further. "I joined Stan on the strip around the turn of 2000, on a story with a costumed arsonist," Thomas told *CSN* back in 2012. Thomas's involvement with the strip came about because of the long professional history that he and Stan shared. (Thomas was one of the pioneers of the Marvel bullpen's "second generation" of talent; after several years as a writer and associate editor, he was tapped by Stan to replace him as editor-in-chief when Stan was promoted to Marvel's publisher.)

"I dropped Stan a line to say that, if there were ever something I'd be right for with one of his various online enterprises, please let me know," Thomas explained. Almost immediately, Stan contacted him. "He invited me to work on the strip with him."

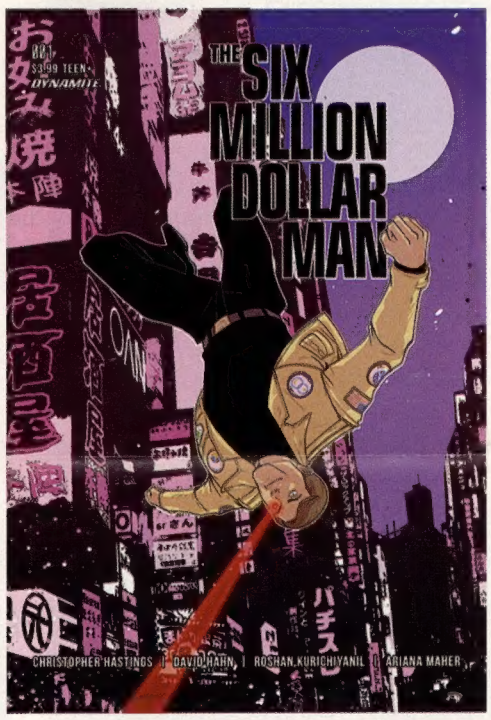
Thomas said that writing a comic strip is quite different from writing a comic book. "Yes, there's less freedom," Thomas said, "but the comic strip is its own reward. Two or three panels a day (or formerly one or two more, when the comics were reproduced bigger) is its own reality, and it's one I've always liked."

The strip remains credited to *Stan Lee* for now in recognition of the vital role he has played in the strip over the years. And of course, as long as the strip continues, you'll be able to see it here every week!

Hastings & Hahn Land the Six Million Dollar Job

The Six Million Dollar Man is coming back to comics—and *Christopher Hastings & David Hahn* are the men responsible for Steve Austin's return!

"Hastings and Hahn are a dang dream team. And they're bringing out the best of Steve Austin, an 'aw-shucks can-do' astronaut who just so happens to have a laser eye," said editor *Nate Cosby*.



The new series, which is set in the 1970s, takes Steve Austin to Japan, where he assists Japanese secret agent Niko Abe on her mission to stop a madman from exacting revenge on the United States for decades-old conflicts. The assignment becomes much more challenging, however, when Austin's cybernetically altered body begins to fail him.

"I know comics is the business of fun, but *man* I had a lot of fun writing this book," Hastings said. "I do little dances in my chair when *David Hahn's* artwork comes in (which is then accompanied by the terrible sense of responsibility of writing words that are good enough to be seen next to it)."

"I was not only excited to be working on the Six Million Dollar Man, but was doubly thrilled that our story takes place in Steve Austin's original TV era of the mid-'70s," Hahn said. "That was a time when aesthetics regarding technology were simultaneously clunky and sleek, just like our version of Steve Austin. Chris has also injected a good amount of humor into our story, which is another big plus for me."

The Six Million Dollar Man #1 is scheduled for March release.

CSN TOP COMICS

AGE OF X-MAN: AMAZING NIGHT-CRAWLER #1 (OF 5)

Sean McGuire (W); Juan Frigeri (A)

(Marvel DEC180888 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Kurt Wagner is the biggest celebrity-slash-superhero since Dwayne Johnson! Juggling Kurt's responsibilities as one of the X-Men and a slate of summer blockbusters would be tough without the best support staff in the business: stunt coordinator Magma! Personal trainer Kylun! And of course, his leading lady Meggan! But there's something rotten in Tinseltown...

Why Should You Care?

The idyllic world created by X-Man continues... but is it really as idyllic as it seems?

AGE OF X-MAN: MARVELOUS X-MEN #1 (OF 5)

Lonnie Nadler & Zac Thompson (W); Marco Failla (A)

(Marvel DEC180879 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The X-Men have helped make the world into a utopia where living in fear and hatred is a thing of the past. All people are united under the banner of mutantkind, and all of mutantkind idolizes the X-Men. Jean Grey! Colossus! Storm! X-23! X-Man! Nature Girl! Magneto! And of course, the amazing Nightcrawler! When danger threatens the world, the Marvelous X-Men set things right for the good of all. And no one dares say otherwise...

Why Should You Care?

If there's one must-read series in the *Age of X-Man* event, this is it!

AGE OF X-MAN: NEXTGEN #1 (OF 5)

Ed Brisson (W); Marcus To (A)

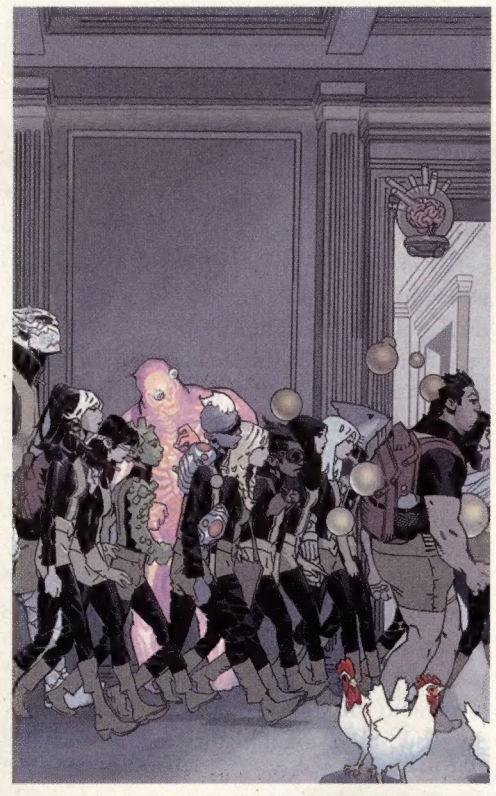
(Marvel DEC180884 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

In an age of utopia, the Summers Institute for Higher Learning is the premiere school for the mutant community across the globe. Attendance is mandatory for all mutant children, as they learn to become the next generation of marvelous X-Men. But even in a utopian society, teenagers will always find a way to rebel. Follow Glob, Armor, Anole, and Rockslide as they discover what it *really* means to live in an age of peace and harmony!

Why Should You Care?

The mutants get schooled in this *Age of X-Man* miniseries... but their independent study adds a new facet to this story of *homo superior* in training...



AGE OF X-MAN: X-TREMISTS #1 (OF 5)

Leah Williams (W); Georges Jeanty (A)

(Marvel DEC180892 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A perfect world doesn't just happen. It needs to be cultivated. That's where the X-Tremists come in. Psylocke, Iceman, Northstar, Blob, Jubilee, and Moneta protect people from threats they won't even know existed, including the most insidious threat of all—love.

Why Should You Care?

Apparently love *isn't* all you need in this reality... And wait 'til you find out why!

AVENGERS: NO ROAD HOME #1 (OF 10)

Al Ewing, Mark Waid, & Jim Zub (W); Paco Medina (A)

(Marvel DEC180831 $4.99)

AVENGERS: NO ROAD HOME #2 (OF 10)

Al Ewing, Mark Waid, & Jim Zub (W); Paco Medina (A)

(Marvel DEC180837 $3.99)

AVENGERS: NO ROAD HOME #3 (OF 10)

Al Ewing, Mark Waid, & Jim Zub (W); Paco Medina (A)

(Marvel DEC180839 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Night has fallen across the universe. Now seven Avengers—and one new addition—journey forth to bring back the light... and that means a confrontation with Nyx, Queen of the Night, and her followers, the Children of the Night. But when the threat they face has destroyed even the gods, will anyone make it home?

Why Should You Care?

The creative team responsible for the hit *Avengers: No Surrender* is reunited for this event, which will also carry *Avengers* legacy numbering, making it a must-have for completists. And if that's not enough, here's another reason to check it out: Conan will make his Marvel Universe debut in this series, joining forces with the Scarlet Witch!

...THE 369th REGIMENT ARMORY!
WHY HAS KILLGRAVE FORCED ME TO COME HERE TO HARLEM?
WHAT CAN POSSIBLY BE INSIDE THAT BUILDING THAT HE WANTS-OR NEEDS?

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MARCH

BATMAN #64
LAST COLD CASE

Joshua Williamson (W); Guillem March (A)

(DC DEC180510 $3.99)

FLASH #64
LAST COLD CASE

Joshua Williamson (W); Rafael Sandoval & Jordi Tarragona (A)

(DC DEC180512 $3.99)

BATMAN #65
LAST COLD CASE

Joshua Williamson (W); Guillem March (A)

(DC DEC180515 $3.99)

FLASH #65
LAST COLD CASE

Joshua Williamson (W);
Rafael Sandoval & Jordi Tarragona (A)

(DC DEC180517 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The two greatest detectives in the DC Universe take on the one cold case that will tear them apart! As chief architect of the Sanctuary program that cost so much for so many—especially Wally West—Batman will be held accountable... by the Flash! A cold case from the Justice League's past has mysteriously re-opened, and Batman and the Flash—the only two heroes who stand a chance of cracking the case—are at each other's throats! Our heroes must combat a demon from the past while burying their own inner demons in the process. But who is really pulling the strings here? And how does Gotham Girl fit into all this?

Why Should You Care?

The superteam whose investigation of an enigmatic button was a precursor to ***Doomsday Clock*** reunites for a story that explores the impact of ***Heroes in Crisis*** on a long-standing superhero alliance.

CAPTAIN MARVEL: BRAVER & MIGHTIER #1

Jody Houser (W); Simone Buonfantino (A)

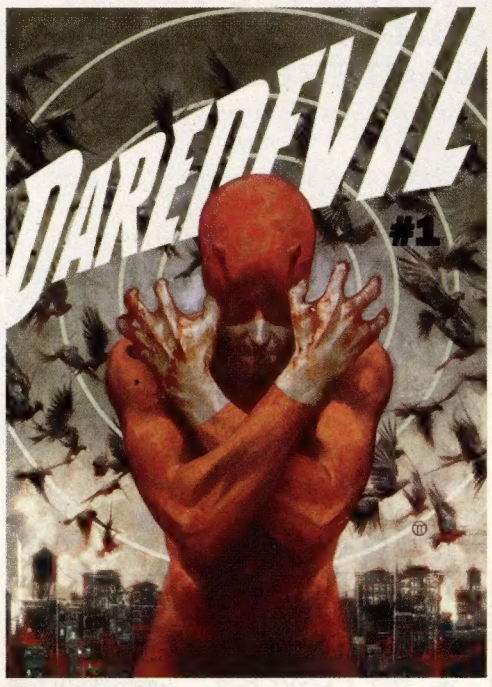
(Marvel DEC180915 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

It's Carol Danvers Day! Air Force Pilot Carol Danvers is a hero to many... so what could possibly delay her to her own celebration? Only her other job as Earth's Mightiest Hero, Captain Marvel! Stuck between her duty to her community and her responsibility to the wider world, Carol will have to make a tough decision and muster all of her power to fend off an invasion force!

Why Should You Care?

Jody Houser supplies the story for this standalone tale that will be a great comics introduction to Captain Marvel for moviegoers.



DAREDEVIL #1

Chip Zdarsky (W); Marco Checchetto (A)

(Marvel DEC180841 $4.99)

DAREDEVIL #2

Chip Zdarsky (W); Marco Checchetto (A)

(Marvel DEC180849 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Matt Murdock is back as Daredevil, trying to prove that he still has what it takes. After the events of "The Death of Daredevil," however, what is the new status quo for Matt Murdock?

Why Should You Care?

Chip Zdarsky, whose runs on ***Peter Parker: Spectacular Spider-Man*** and ***Marvel 2-in-One*** were some of the finest comics of the past year, takes charge of the Man Without Fear with this relaunch—and we can't wait to see what he has in store for Daredevil!

DETECTIVE COMICS #999

Peter Tomasi (W);
Doug Mahnke & Jaime Mendoza (A)

(DC DEC180553 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The truth behind the gauntlet Batman has been forced to run—a violent odyssey that endangered the lives of everyone who made him who he is—is revealed at last... and just wait 'til you see the identity of the mastermind working to unmake the Batman!

Why Should You Care?

Peter Tomasi & Doug Mahnke have made ***Detective*** *the* must-read Bat-title since they took over with ***'Tec #994...*** and this issue promises to be the most memorable yet! (And of course, it paves the way for ***Detective #1000...***)

EXCITING COMICS #1

Various (W/A)

(Antarctic DEC181565 $1.99)

What's the Scoop?

For the first time in over 70 years, ***Exciting Comics*** returns to the comics racks as Antarctic Press introduces its Superverse, a new shared universe that combines classic public domain characters such as Black Terror and the Heap with a host of new, original heroes.

Why Should You Care?

Antarctic, a company with more than a third of a century of comics to its credit, has been generating some buzz with titles like ***Rags*** and ***Punchline.*** Now it's ready to amp things up even further with the launch of its very own shared superhero universe—and it's only charging two bucks for the premiere issue!

INCURSION #1

Andy Diggle & Alex Paknadel (W); Doug Braithwaite (A)

(Valiant DEC182121 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Beyond the margins of human reason lies a realm known as the Deadside, where the souls of the dearly departed linger—and where demons wait in the dark. For countless ages, Earth's chosen protectors have guarded the veil between both worlds—but there are other doors to the Deadside, through which gruesome terrors from galaxies untold can trespass... With the planet's freedom at stake, can the reigning Geomancer and her steadfast Eternal Warrior stand together against an invasion unlike any they've ever witnessed?

Why Should You Care?

Andy Diggle, Alex Paknadel, & Doug Braithwaite explore the darker, more mystical corners of the Valiant Universe in this series.

OBERON #1

Ryan Parrott (W); Milos Slavkovic (A)

(AfterShock DEC181441 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Betrayed by his people and exiled to Earth, Lord Oberon, the former king of the fairies, seeks out an innocent prophesied child in order to manipulate her into becoming his ultimate weapon so that he can reclaim his rightful throne.

Why Should You Care?

Ryan Parrott & Milos Slavkovic reveal that the "goodness and light" reputation that fairies have built up over the years is way, *way* overrated...

RED SONJA #1

Mark Russell (W); Mirko Colak (A)

(Dynamite DEC181072 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A world conqueror possesses a massive army and a fatal prophecy. A bastard sorceress craves revenge. And a fearsome red-haired warrior is made wartime ruler of a homeland set for decimation...

Why Should You Care?

Mark Russell stresses the swordplay and savagery in this ***Red Sonja*** relaunch. If you like what *Jason Aaron* is doing with ***Conan the Barbarian*** (and who doesn't?!), then you should feel right at home with *Mark Russell's* Sonja..

SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #1

Gerry Duggan (W); Ron Garney (A)

(Marvel DEC180815 $4.99)

SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #2

Gerry Duggan (W); Ron Garney (A)

(Marvel DEC180823 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Adrift at sea with no food and no weapons. Death surely awaits him. However, when Conan finds himself captured, he unleashes his might on an unsuspecting pirate crew... one whose dark secrets will plunge Conan on the trail of an ancient treasure that may prove to be his undoing!

Why Should You Care?

Gerry Duggan tells ***CSN*** that he's "really pushing the boundary" with this series, aiming for the more mature tone of the classic ***Savage Sword of Conan***—and that's great news for fans of *Robert E. Howard's* barbarian hero!

SHARKEY, BOUNTY HUNTER #1 (OF 6)

Mark Millar (W); Simone Bianchi (A)

(Image DEC180050 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Sharkey is a blue-collar bounty hunter who tracks criminals across the galaxy in his converted, rocket-powered ice-cream truck. Aided and abetted by his 10-year-old partner, he's out for the biggest bounty of his career.

Why Should You Care?

Magic Order, Kick Ass, Prodigy—*Mark Millar* has been a hitmaker for Image for the better part of a year now, and you can count on that trend to continue with this *Simone Bianchi*–illustrated miniseries.

UNCANNY X-MEN #11

Matthew Rosenberg (W); Salvador Larroca (A)

(Marvel DEC180896 $7.99)

What's the Scoop?

After the devastating events of "X-Men Disassembled," it falls to Cyclops to rebuild the X-Men in the face of overwhelming hatred. Thankfully, he's not the only X-Man to have just returned from oblivion. At last, Scott and Logan are together again... and they are mutantkind's only hope.

Why Should You Care?

If you thought that ***Age of X-Man*** was the only good thing to come out of "X-Men Disassembled," think again! *Matthew Rosenberg* has big plans for the X-Men, and they revolve around two of Marvel's most beloved mutants.

WONDER TWINS #1 (OF 6)

Mark Russell (W); Stephen Byrne (A)

(DC DEC180525 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Exiled from their home planet, alien heroes Zan and Jayna must navigate life as teens on Earth at South Metropolis High School, where they're even bigger outsiders than the typical awkward young adults. Under the watchful eye of Superman, the brother and sister pull monitor duty as interns at the Hall of Justice, while also trying to overcome the pitfalls of Zan's brash confidence and Jayna's shy but streetwise persona.

Why Should You Care?

Mark Russell & Stephen Byrne present a very different—and very memorable—take on the Wonder Twins in this new *Brian Bendis*–curated series..

FYI: : Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

ALTER EGO #157

(TwoMorrows NOV182026 $9.95)

Richard Arndt presents a fascinating and insightful interview with *Joye Murchison,* assistant to *Dr William Moulton Marston...* and ***Wonder Woman*** writer from 1944 until 1947. Then editor *Barbara Friedlander* spills the beans about her tenure on DC's romance comics.

EXPANDING ART OF COMICS: 10 MODERN MASTERPIECES HC

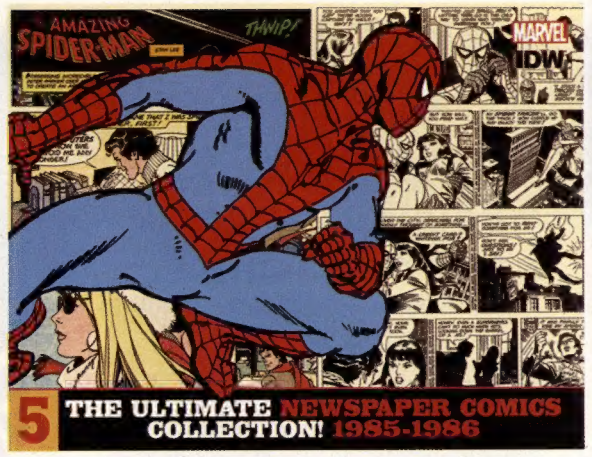
(University Press of Mississippi DEC182119 $30.00)

Thierry Gronesteen & Aaron Miller look at 10 defining comics projects by *Hugo Pratt, Alan Moore, Dave Gibbons, Moebius, Chris Ware,* and others. What makes the cut? Pick up the book and find out!

HOGAN'S ALLEY #22

(Hogan's Alley DEC181912 $7.50)

Jonny Quest is in the spotlight in this long-awaited issue of ***Hogan's Alley,*** which also features an intriguing (and at times disturbing) look back by *Jean Kilbourne* at her time working for ***Li'l Abner*** creator *Al Capp.*



Collected Cool: February's Best Reprint Editions

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ULTIMATE NEWSPAPER COMICS HC VOL 5: 1985–1986

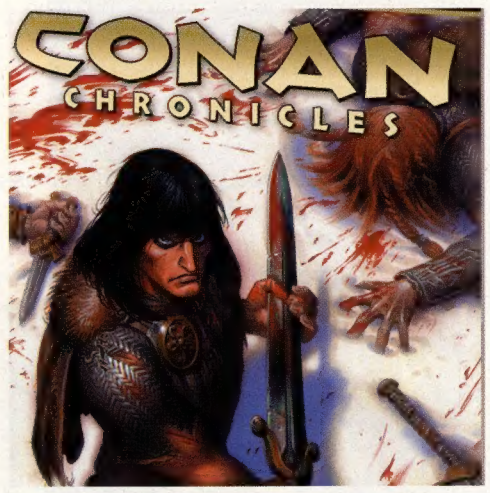
(IDW OCT180725 $49.99)

IDW ventures into the land of the previously unreprinted with this collection of *Stan Lee–Dan Barry–Floro Dery* strips from 1985 and 1986. (As you might have guessed from looking at the contents of each issue of ***CSN,*** we're quite fond of the strip—the last long-running project by *Stan Lee.)*

CONAN CHRONICLES EPIC COLLECTION TP: DARKSOME HILLS

(Marvel NOV181045 $39.99)

Marvel begins its reprinting of the best Dark Horse Conan tales with this collection of *Kurt Busiek's* ***Conan the Legend #0*** and ***Conan #s 1–19.***



I CAN SENSE YOU'RE CURIOUS WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE.
MY VOCAL POWERS HAVE LESSENED- AND I NOW CAN CONTROL ONLY ONE PERSON AT A TIME.
STAN LEE/ALEX SAVIUK 1-16
BUT INSIDE THE ARMORY IS THE LIQUEFIED NERVE GAS THAT GAVE ME MY POWERS.
ONCE IMMERSED IN IT AGAIN, I'LL BE AS POWERFUL AS EVER!
THEN THIS ENTIRE CITY WILL BE MINE TO COMMAND!
AND I CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE TO STOP HIM!

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Follow *Spider-Man* every week in *Comic Shop News*!

DC UNIVERSE BY LEN WEIN HC

(DC NOV180549 $34.99)

You may know *Len Wein* best as the co-creator of ***Swamp Thing,*** but this far-reaching collection spotlights his versatility as writer of such heroes as the Teen Titans, Superman, Phantom Stranger, and others.

DECADES MARVEL IN THE '50s TP: CAPTAIN AMERICA STRIKES

(Marvel NOV181020 $24.99)

Marvel collects tales from the almost-forgotten 1950s ***Captain America*** return, including material from ***Young Men #s 24–28, Captain America #s 76–78,*** and ***Men's Adventures #s 27–28,*** along with a 1950s-era tale of more recent vintage featuring Cap and Nick Fury.

DITKO'S MONSTERS

(IDW DEC180800 $9.99)

Enjoy this "best-of" collection of *Joe Gill & Steve Ditko's* ***Gorgo*** and ***Konga,*** with new introductions by *Tony Isabella* and *Mark Ditko.*

EC ARCHIVES HC: PIRACY

(Dark Horse OCT180352 $49.99)

EC's output included much more than horror and science fiction, as this collection of memorable pirate tales demonstrates. *Wally Wood, Jack Davis, Al Williamson, Graham Ingels, Reed Crandall, Bernard Krigstein, George Evans*—they're all in here, along with many others.

FIREFLY LEGACY EDITION TP VOL 2

(Boom! OCT181240 $29.99)

Boom! collects the last half of Dark Horse's ***Serenity/Firefly*** output, including ***Leaves on the Wind #s 1–6,*** "The Warrior and the Wind" from ***Dark Horse FCBD 2016,*** and ***No Power in the 'Verse #s 1–6.***

GREEN LANTERN BY GEOFF JOHNS TP BOOK 1

(DC NOV180557 $24.99)

Geoff Johns brought Green Lantern back from the comic book dead, and this volume collects the tales that resurrected the hero and made him a superstar, including ***Green Lantern: Rebirth #s 1–6, Green Lantern #s 1–3, Green Lantern Corps: Recharge #s 1–5,*** and ***Green Lantern Secret Files 2005 #1.***

IMMORTAL HULK TP VOL 2: GREEN DOOR

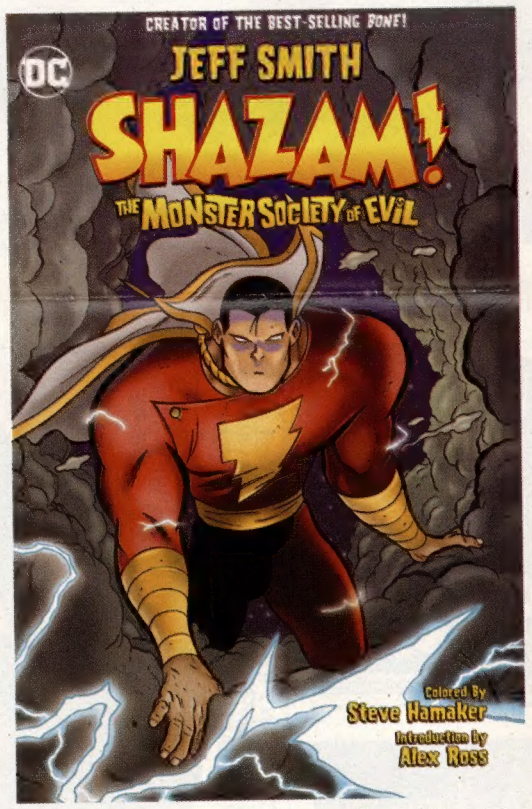
(Marvel NOV181036 $15.99)

Immortal Hulk remains the best ongoing horror comic being published today—and you'll know just what we mean once you read this collection, including the most twisted Hulk tale ever from ***Immortal Hulk #8.***

MISTER MIRACLE TP

(DC OCT180598 $24.99)

Tom King & Mitch Gerads' acclaimed 12-issue limited series is *finally* available in a single volume!



SHAZAM! THE MONSTER SOCIETY OF EVIL TP

(DC NOV180568 $19.99)

Jeff Smith's delightful tale pitting Shazam against some of his most powerful adversaries (a contemporary tale inspired by the classic Golden Age serial) returns to print just ahead of the upcoming ***Shazam!*** film.

SHAZAM! TP

(DC NOV180569 $12.99)

...And speaking of that ***Shazam!*** film, this captivating collection of Shazam! tales from the ***Doomsday Clock*** team of *Geoff Johns & Gary Frank* (originally presented in the pages of ***Justice League)*** paves the way for both the ***Shazam!*** film *and* the newly launched ongoing series.

SILVER AGE CLASSICS: TALES OF MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER HC VOL 2

(PS Artbooks SEP181940 $44.99)

Experience the *Steve Ditko* tales that hinted at what was to come in the pages of ***Amazing Adult Fantasy*** and other Marvel pre-hero books—and when we say "experience," we mean it, since PS Artbooks' ads-and-all reprints fully duplicate the original comics from more than 60 years ago.

SPIDER-GEDDON TP

(Marvel NOV181026 $24.99)

Spider-Man, Otto Octavius, Spider-Gwen, Miles Morales, Spider-Woman, Spider-Punk, the live-action Japanese TV Spider-Man, the Spider-Man from the new PS4 video game—they're all in this Spidey extravaganza, along with many others (including lots of characters making their debut in the pages of this event).

WONDER WOMAN BY PHIL JIMENEZ OMNIBUS HC

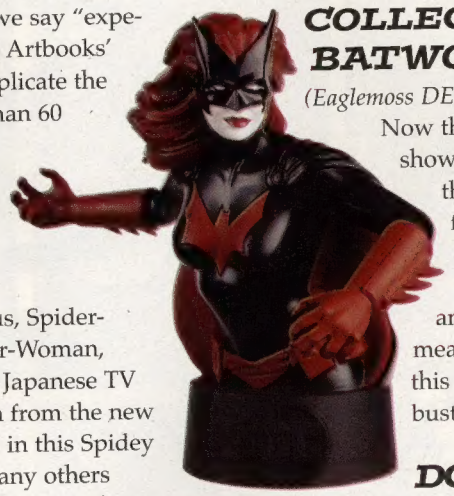
(DC AUG180663 $75.00)

Phil Jimenez's amazing run on ***Wonder Woman*** from the 2000s is collected in this hefty oversized compendium.

Hot Commodities: February's Best Merchandising & Collectibles

DC BATMAN UNIVERSE BUST COLLECTION #21: BATWOMAN

(Eaglemoss DEC182534 $24.95)



Now that the ***Batwoman*** TV show has been green-lit, there will be lots of folks looking for any Batwoman memorabilia they can find—and that undoubtedly means a fast sellout for this affordable Eaglemoss bust!

DC DESIGNER SERIES NIGHTWING & BATGIRL BY RYAN SOOK STATUE

(DC Collectibles JUL180809 $250.00)

The distinctive art of *Ryan Sook* is the inspiration for this striking two-figure sculpture that is designed to stand upright or to be mounted on a wall so the characters can hang inverted in their embrace.

MARVEL GALLERY SPIDER-MAN COMIC PVC FIGURE

(Diamond Select SEP182341 $45.00)

Crouched on a web slung across an alleyway, Spider-Man lives up to his namesake in this all-new ultra-affordable PVC sculpture portraying the hero in his element.

MARVEL PREMIER BLACK PANTHER MOVIE STATUE

(Diamond Select JUN182322 $150.00)

This 16" sculpture by *Rocco Tartamella,* inspired by the epic film, depicts the Black Panther leaping from a flaming neon sign. It's limited to 3,000 units, so grab it while you have the chance!

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SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

SEEMS TO ME, MRS. PARKER, I'VE SEEN PHOTOS OF YOU AND SPIDER-MAN TOGETHER.
PLEASE, THE NAME IS MJ.
AND YES, HE'S SAVED MY LIFE ONCE OR TWICE.
STAN LEE ALEX SAVIUK 1-8

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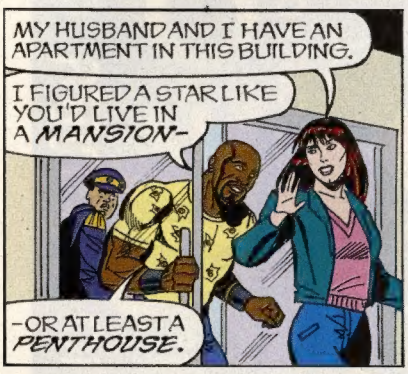

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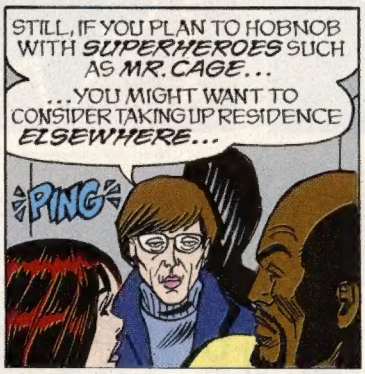
STILL, IF YOU PLAN TO HOBNOB WITH SUPERHEROES SUCH AS MR. CAGE...
...YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER TAKING UP RESIDENCE ELSEWHERE...
PING

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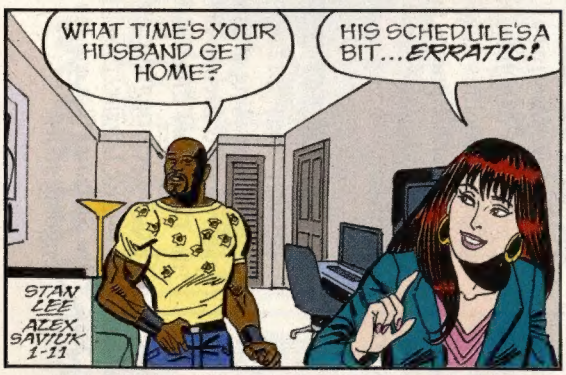

SO, YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW TO FIND SPIDER-MAN AND THAT PURPLE DUDE-
-BEFORE HE LANDS THE WEB-MAN ON THE "MOST WANTED" LIST?
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE!

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IT'S GOTTA BE HERE SOMEWHERE!
YOU SAID WHEN KILLGRAVE SPOKE, YOU HAD TO DO WHATEVER HE TOLD YOU TO?
YEAH. BUT WHEN SPIDER-MAN SHOWED, HE DECIDED HE'D MAKE AN EVEN BETTER ACCOMPLICE.

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